

Wolfeboro Police Commission Meeting Minutes August 15, 2013

Members present: Chairman Ron Goodgame, Vice Chairman Bob Copeland and Joe Balboni Jr.

Staff present: Chief Stu Chase and Recording Secretary Amelia Capone-Muccio.

Chairman Goodgame called the meeting to order at 4:08 PM and introduced the Commissioner's, staff, and public in attendance. He noted a quorum was present.

Consideration of Minutes

- ***Public minutes of July 18, 2013***

Commissioner Bob Copeland moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to accept the public minutes of July 18, 2013 as submitted. Commissioner Ron Goodgame seconded. Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.

Activity Reports

Chief Chase reviewed the following activity reports for the month:

Offenses (State Law) by month: He reported 99 offenses for last month, and 571 total to date which is a 99% increase from last year.

Arrest status report: He reported 48 arrests last month.

Personnel Analysis report: He provided the monthly report.

Accidents by street name: He reported 35% increase in accidents from 2012, with 92 reported to date.

Citation analysis report: He provided the monthly report noting 377 enforcement actions taken, but as always education is the main concern. He reported \$2,404.58 in monetary fines to the State for last month.

Prosecutor's report: He reported; 12 arraignments, 1 trials, 20 pleas, and 4 pretrial conferences.

School Resource Officer (SRO): N/A

Detective's Report: He reported the Detective worked 22 days in the month with 16 pending cases.

Crime Comparison reports: He reported a decrease in crimes of passion and crimes of property. He noted that crimes of property are common in this area as they are identify theft and credit card fraud which is the trend against the senior population.

Call Analysis by Call reason: N/A

DISCUSSION:

Chairman Goodgame questioned the increase in accidents.

Chief Chase replied that he has no explanation for the increase but it is typical for the accidents occur on the main roads but could look at the causation.

Chairman Goodgame questioned the increase in larceny for motor vehicles and if those are the Detectives cases.

Chief Chase replied that the public should be reminded to lock their cars and doors. He replied they are not necessarily the Detectives cases; he typically covers cases with jail time exceeding one year or more, but doesn't mean he doesn't assist the Patrol Officers.

Chairman Goodgame stated he is trying to find out the degree of difficulty on the cases and how to determine the change in demographics for Wolfeboro and the possible need of an additional Detective in the future.

Chief Chase replied that the spreadsheet of cases outline his case load and most of those cases are property crimes and can take him beyond the boundaries of Wolfeboro. He stated that they have a full staffing level at this time and he doesn't see a need for an additional Detective at this time.

Chief's Items

He reported the following items:

- Marissa Voelbel, our new permanent part-time central dispatch employee is upbeat, courteous and friendly with strong customer-service skills and is a welcome addition to our staff.
- Officers Devine and Bois continue to make a very favorable impression in the Downtown area this summer and complaints of parking violations have reduced. He noted that each issued violation is accompanied by a (cellphone) photo.
- Several Police Department and Central Dispatch members were certified in CPR in a training session offered this month.
- The superior officers met for a staff meeting to go over many matters of interest and mutual concerns. They discussed the Independence Day events including the eight medical aid calls that occurred in twenty two minutes which will result in some changes for next year.
- He attended a Budget Committee meeting and gave a mid-term update of the police, central dispatch and animal control budgets and spoke briefly on the seasonal officer(s) program.
- He is preparing the 2014 budget with a goal of having it to the Town Manager's office by August 30th. The guidance from the Town management calls for a zero percent increase in the total discretionary spending.

- He noted in the police budget the Town is obligated to pick up the salary of Officer Patrick Spera September 1, 2014, when the 3-year, federally funded, COPS MORE Program expires. He stated having that additional officer allowed us to create a formalized, investigative component in the Department and the crime comparison reports show the value of adequate staffing and shift-fills with reductions in crimes. There is high visibility patrols and effective selective enforcement and the public enjoys the interaction with personnel on a one on one basis.
- He reported on Saturday, September 14th from 12-4PM, there will be a family, fun afternoon at Foss Field sponsored by the New England Police Benevolent Association. There will be a, "touch a truck" program, dunk tank, face painting, craft, food vendors, music and dancing with a local DJ. Fun for kids of all ages and admission is free!

Commissioner's Items

None.

Board of Selectmen's Representative

Ms. Silk stated that two officers will be on hand for the next Hazardous Waste Collection including a medicine collection on Saturday August 17th from 8:30 AM to Noon.

➤ Questions from the Public

Peter Pijoan questioned what the seasonal officers do as he never saw them.

Chief Chase replied that two certified Police Officers were hired to cover 15 hours per week each (for a total of 30) and this expanded their duties beyond parking enforcement.

Chairman Goodgame noted that there also were some issues with shop lifting and the presence of these officers helped that issue.

➤ Next Meeting

September 19, 2013 at 4:00 PM at the Wolfeboro Public Library.

Being no further business, Chairman Goodgame entertained a motion to non-public session.

Commissioner Bob Copeland moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to move to non-public session under RSA 91-A II a: to discuss the dismissal, promotion or compensation of any public employee or discipline or investigation of any charges against an employee, Consideration of pending claims or litigation and Collective Bargaining at 4:32 PM. Joe Balboni Jr. seconded. Roll call vote, Bob Copeland-yes, Joe Balboni Jr.-yes and Ron Goodgame-yes, being none opposed, the motion passed.

The Commission re-entered public session at 5:12 PM.

Chairman Goodgame announced that the Commission sealed non-public session minutes of the August 15, 2013, by a 2/3rd vote as required by law.

Being no further business before the Commission, Chairman Goodgame entertained a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Bob Copeland moved the Wolfeboro Police Commission to adjourn at 5:13 PM. Commissioner Joe Balboni Jr. seconded. Being none opposed, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Amelia Capone-Muccio